

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 4-7, 9-14, and 16-17 are pending in this application. Claim 18 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1 and 12-14 have been amended to recite functional group R selected from the group consisting of “a carboxylic acid and a carboxylic ester.” These amendments are supported by the claims and specification, as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for re-indicating that claims 4-6 and 16-18 are allowable. Applicant agrees that the prior art of record does not describe or suggest the claimed polyamide.

Reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the remarks below.

Claim Rejections

The rejection of claims 1 and 9-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102as anticipated by, in Hayes et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,075,117) as evidenced by Fischer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,359,178), and the rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Hayes et al. in combination with Ogo (U.S. Patent No. 6,117,942), as evidenced by Fischer et al., is respectfully traversed and obviated by amendment. As shown above, the claims have been amended in accordance with the indicated allowable subject matter. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims is requested.

In view of the above, consideration and allowance are respectfully solicited.

In the event the Examiner believes an interview might serve in any way to advance the prosecution of this application, the undersigned is available at the telephone number noted below.

A fee for a one-month extension of time has been paid with the filing of this Amendment. Applicant believes no additional fee is due. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 03-2775, under Order No. 12810-00162-US1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: March 17, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

Electronic signature: /Bryant L. Young/
Bryant L. Young
Registration No.: 49,073
CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP
1875 Eye Street, NW
Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 331-7111
(202) 293-6229 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant